

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 128

By Mr. Rushing of Boston, petition of Byron Rushing and others  
for legislation to hire and train election officers. Election Laws.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### PETITION OF:

Byron Rushing	Gloria L. Fox
Anne M. Paulsen	Alice Hanlon Peisch
Deborah D. Blumer	Dianne Wilkerson
Alice K. Wolf	Frank I. Smizik

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE HIRING AND TRAINING ELECTION OFFICERS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby
- 2 amended by inserting after section 22 the following section:—
- 3 Section 22A. No later than June 30, 2006, the state secretary
- 4 shall adopt uniform standards for the training of election officers.
- 5 The uniform standards shall, at a minimum, address the following
- 6 matters:
- 7 (1) relevant election laws, election regulations, and any other
- 8 subjects that will assist an election officer in carrying out his or
- 9 her duties;
- 10 (2) operation of the jurisdiction's voting machines;
- 11 (3) poll hours and procedures concerning the opening and
- 12 closing of polling places on election day;
- 13 (4) procedures regarding ballot challenges, provisional ballots,
- 14 and absentee ballots;
- 15 (5) cultural competency, including, but not limited to, having
- 16 adequate knowledge of diverse cultures, including languages, that
- 17 may be encountered by an election officer during the course of an
- 18 election, and the appropriate skills to work with such voters;

- 19 (6) knowledge regarding issues confronting voters who have  
20 disabilities, including, but not limited to, access barriers and the  
21 need for reasonable accommodations; and  
22 (7) voter registration procedures.

1 SECTION 2. Section 11B of said Chapter 54 is hereby  
2 amended by striking out in line 29, as appearing in the 2002 Offi-  
3 cial Edition, the words “of the city” and inserting after the word  
4 “such.” in line 31 the following words:—

5 One such election officer may be a high school student from the  
6 city who meets the following qualifications: a high school student  
7 in good standing; a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0  
8 scale; a United States citizen; the ability to speak, read, and write  
9 the English language; the ability to work the same hours on elec-  
10 tion day as all other election officers; and a recommendation from  
11 his or her high school principal.

1 SECTION 3. Section 12 of said Chapter 54 is hereby amended  
2 by striking out in line 39, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edi-  
3 tion, the words “of the town” and inserting after the word “such.”  
4 in line 41 the following words:—

5 One such election officer may be a high school student from the  
6 town who meets the following qualifications: a high school stu-  
7 dent in good standing; a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a  
8 4.0 scale; a United States citizen; the ability to speak, read, and  
9 write the English language; the ability to work the same hours on  
10 election day as all other election officers; and a recommendation  
11 from his or her high school principal.